

HEPARIN

THERAPEUTIC EFFECTS	A rapid anti-coagulant which acts as a catalyst to accelerate the rate at which antithrombin III neutralizes thrombin and activated coagulation factor X(X_a).
INDICATIONS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Unstable angina and/or myocardial infarction 2. Pulmonary embolism 3. Deep vein thrombosis
CONTRAINDICATIONS	Hemorrhage
PRECAUTIONS/SIDE EFFECTS	Allergic reactions to heparin rarely occur. Heparin should be used with extreme caution whenever there is an increased risk of hemorrhage. Some of the risk factors include GI lesions, recent surgery, blood dyscrasias, menstruation, uncontrolled hypertension, and indwelling catheters.
ADULT DOSAGE/ROUTE	Although dosage is variable, typically an initial loading dose of 5000 units is given by IV injection followed by a continuous infusion from 500 to 2300 units per hour.